

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6927

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 7904

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, MY
SUBJ: DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO US

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 7434

1. ACCORDING TO TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN REFTTEL, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMED WILL BE IN NEW YORK FROM SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 4. WE APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THE UNGA MEETING AND THE SECRETARY'S BILATERALS WILL PLACE A HEAVY BURDEN ON SCHEDULING DURING THAT PERIOD. HOWEVER, DR. MAHATHIR IS HEIR-APPARENT TO THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP AND A KEY FIGURE IN THE GOM'S HANDLING OF SEVERAL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE U.S. DURING HIS LAST VISIT TO THE U.S., DR. MAHATHIR SAW THE SECRETARY FOR AN EXTENDED AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL CONVERSATION, CONSEQUENTLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT TRY TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH THE SECRETARY AND PERHAPS THE VICE PRESIDENT AS WELL AS THE SCERETARY OF COMMERCE. WE DO NOT INTEND TO RAISE THIS WITH DR. MAHATHIR BUT WILL BE GLAD TO EXTEND AN INVITATION FOR HIM TO VISIT WASHINGTON, IF NECESSARY, SHOULD THE DEPARTMENT ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS THERE. MILLER

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